

GALLERY GAVE WAY.

Score of Persons Hurt as Booker Washington Closes Address.

Jackson, Miss., Oct. 6.—A score of persons were more or less seriously injured late to-day just as Booker T. Washington closed an address at the Coliseum on the Fair grounds. An audience of four or five thousand persons had assembled to hear him, many white people from the city being present and occupying reserved sections on the gallery. As the crowd arose to leave, one section of the gallery gave way with a crash and the occupants were precipitated to the floor beneath, but not instantly, the fall being gradual. However, several were more or less seriously hurt from the fall or by being trampled under foot by the panic-stricken negroes on whose heads the occupants of the gallery were spilled. Among those in the gallery were Bishop Chas. B. Galloway, but he escaped with only a few painful bruises. Thomas Helm, one of Jackson's oldest and wealthiest men, had an arm broken. Three white persons are reported hurt, but more negroes suffered injuries.

Damage Suit Against Southern.

One of the most interesting cases that has come up in the common pleas court of Spartanburg county in years is the case of J. M. Turbyfill, administrator of the estate of Miss B. Hand, against the Southern railway, which was begun yesterday morning. The suit is for \$50,000. The plaintiff is represented by Wilson & Osborne, and the defendant by Sanders & DePass. The argument will be concluded this morning and the case will go to the jury.

Miss Hand was run over and killed by a Southern railway passenger train at Duncan on November 9th, of last year, while she was crossing the track on her way to see a sick friend. Miss Hand was a sister-in-law of Mr. J. M. Turbyfill and was a teacher in the public school at Duncan. On the afternoon of November 9th last, after dismissing the school, she started to the home of a sick friend. As she went to cross the Southern's tracks near the depot she heard passenger No. 11 coming. Thinking she had time to get across, she quickened her pace and started in a brisk gait between a fast walk and a run. It is said that as she moved forward she held her head downward and sideways, against the wind, so that her hat obstructed her vision of the train, which was just emerging from a deep cut. Had she been looking at the train even after she started it is claimed that she would doubtless have halted and turned back. She was caught between the tracks by the powerful engine and crushed to death in the presence of several witnesses.

Counsel for the plaintiff claims that there are two issues in the case: First, was Miss Hand guilty of gross negligence; second, did the Southern railway blow and ring continuously for 500 yards before reaching the crossing? The case is a most interesting one, and will be watched closely by all.—Spartanburg Herald.

Verdict for \$5,000.

Spartanburg, Oct. 7.—In the suit against the Southern Railway for damages in the sum of fifty thousand dollars, brought by J. M. Turbyfill, administrator of the estate of Miss B. Hand, the young school teacher who was killed at Duncan last November while crossing a railroad track, the jury returned a verdict for five thousand dollars.

Miss Hand was on her way to visit a sick friend and while crossing the track was struck by No. 37, which was running several hours late. The young lady was a sister to Prof. Hand of South Carolina University.

Negro Clerk's Pay Reduced.

Washington, Oct. 7.—The civil service commission to-day issued a statement announcing that Paul W. Cox, a sub-clerk in the Robinson, Ill., post-office, has been removed from office and H. B. Thomas, clerk in the Orangeburg, S. C., postoffice, severely reprimanded and reduced in salary from \$900 to \$800 a year, beginning last Tuesday, both because of "pernicious political activity." Cox, while a clerk, refused to withdraw from his active canvass as a prohibition candidate for clerk of Crawford county, Ill., saying he understood it was none of the department's business so long as he performed his duties satisfactorily. Thomas was chairman of the district Republican committee, and the commission sustained complaints against him of obnoxious activity. On its recommendations, in view of his good reputation and record, he was not removed, but severely disciplined and required to resign his chairmanship immediately on penalty of dismissal.

Edgefield Man Kills Negro.

Edgefield, Oct. 8.—Richard Penn, a prominent and somewhat educated negro of the town, was shot and almost instantly killed by Tom Gray, white, this afternoon. Gray used a pistol, shooting five times, two balls taking effect, one in the right thigh, the other two inches above the navel, the latter wound causing death.

W. W. Shepard and Policeman Weir were the first to reach Penn after he was shot and testified at the inquest that the deceased made the following dying declarations:

"That he was coming towards town and met Gray and they spoke and deceased remarked that that was a fine piece of corn. Gray replied: 'Yes; it is not mine, but belongs to Mr. Samuels.' They then passed each other and when deceased had gone about 30 yards, Gray called him back and commenced cursing him and fired."

It is said that Mr. Wright Holson was an eye witness to the homicide, but he did not testify.

Gray has, so far as is publicly known, made no statement and his version of the affair is not known. It is rumored that Gray says that the deceased insulted his mother. Gray is now in jail and has employed counsel.

The jury's verdict was in accordance with the above facts.

LAURENS ELECTION MUDDLE.

Attorney Cannon Gives Out a Statement.

Laurens, Oct. 8.—In an interview to-day, Mr. John M. Cannon of the local bar, who is acting attorneys for the county dispensary board in the proceedings to secure an injunction against the managers of the November election, stated that the construction placed by this correspondent on one point of the petition upon which Judge Pope's order was secured was not a point that would be held or contended by the county board; "but," said he, "if it takes that to win we will use it."

The point in question is the apparent discrepancy between the constitution of 1895 and the act of legislature of 1896. Mr. Cannon stated that the point raised in the petition was to lay the foundation of the subsequent clauses; that the general election in November would not be affected because by the registration beginning in July of this year, the very act of re-enrolling qualified all such for electionship this fall. "While there is a fault in the act of the legislature," said Mr. Cannon, "it has been remedied by the new registration; hence the question of the validity of the election in November is not affected."

Mr. Cannon stated that the petition submitted to the supervisor did not contain signers to the number of one-fourth of the qualified voters in the county; that it lacked two names, not even striking off those names that appeared more than once in the several petitions presented. This statement is in contradiction of the notice of election published by Supervisor Humbert, which says: "Upon a canvass of the said petition I have found that it does contain the signatures of more than one-fourth of the qualified electors of said county."

Further in the conversation Mr. Cannon stated that he had been criticised for bringing this action and for appearing in behalf of the dispensary, and added that he was contending for a legal election; that "if they were going to hold an election let it be in accordance with the law on the subject."

It is recalled that Mr. Cannon was especially prominent in the contest of 1906, when a similar election was held in this county, the vote being against the dispensary, and which was carried to the supreme court for a final decision.

Mr. R. E. Babb, attorney for the county, was seen this morning, in reference to the number of boxes provided for in the order of the election. The petition of the county dispensary board states that the order for the election, the published notice, is not in compliance with the statute in that it provides but one box in which the ballots "for" and "against sale" shall be deposited, when there should be two. Mr. Babb stated that the published notice was verbatim with the provisions of the statutes.

Copies of Judge Pope's order have been served on the managers of the election and it is understood that they will be prepared on the 17th to contest the matter before the supreme court in Columbia.

COTTON REPORT.

Crop Has Deteriorated Since Previous Report

Washington, Oct. 2.—The cotton crop report issued to-day by the department of agriculture shows the average condition of the cotton crop of Sept. 25 was 69.7 per cent. of a normal, against 76.1 on August 25, last; 67.7 on September 25, 1907; 71.6 on September 25, 1906, and 67.6 the average of the past ten years on September 25.

The conditions and ten years average on September 25, respectively by states, follows:

Virginia.....	78	and	69.6
Georgia.....	71	and	71.
Alabama.....	70	and	68.
Florida.....	72	and	70.
North Carolina.....	69	and	71.
South Carolina.....	68	and	70.
Mississippi.....	70	and	68.
Louisiana.....	55	and	68.
Texas.....	71	and	68.
Arkansas.....	70	and	68.
Tennessee.....	78	and	74.
Missouri.....	70	and	76.
Oklahoma.....	70	and	70...

Reports from Ginners.

Washington, Oct. 2.—The census bureau report on cotton ginning issued to-day shows 2,582,688 bales, counting round as half bales, ginned from growth of 1908 to September 25, compared with 1,532,602 for 1907; 2,057,283 for 1906, and 2,355,716 for 1905.

By the states the number of bales (counting round as half bales) and active ginneries respectively, for 1908, follows:

	Bales.	Gin's.
Alabama.....	307,508	2,911
Arkansas.....	85,827	1,490
Florida.....	16,566	185
Georgia.....	510,290	8,875
Kentucky.....	117	1
Louisiana.....	81,207	1,252
Mississippi.....	198,432	2,638
Missouri.....	4,131	47
North Carolina.....	89,198	1,812
Oklahoma.....	10,141	522
South Carolina.....	288,927	4,699
Tennessee.....	28,128	419
Texas.....	961,835	3,764
Virginia.....	379	35

The distribution of Sea Island cotton for 1908 by states is:

Florida.....	5,092
Georgia.....	5,813
South Carolina.....	370

Stuck to His Answer.

An old sea captain was visiting a certain exhibition, and was greatly interested in the mechanical section, where a fine array of steam whistles was on show.

"How far can that one be heard?" he asked pointing to huge buzzer.

The young man in attendance was only a deputy, but he promptly replied:

"Sixteen miles."

"Sixteen miles?" said the old salt, incredulously.

"When I say sixteen miles," elaborated the youth, "I mean eight miles this way and eight miles that way."

WANTED TO LYNCH NEGRO

INSULTED YOUNG LADY TEACHER AND HAD NARROW ESCAPE.

Johnson Arrested in Appalachee Mill Village and Taken to Columbia.

Only the prompt action of the Greer officials and Sheriff Gilreath prevented a lynching in Greenville county yesterday. A posse, determined to avenge the insult offered a young lady teacher at Greer by a negro man, was hot on the trail of the brute and had he not been spirited away to a place of safety, his body would probably have been riddled with bullets.

Miss McClure was insulted by the negro, Arthur Johnson, in the graded school building Saturday morning. She did not make it known, however, until that afternoon and by that time Johnson had hidden. All afternoon he was hunted by a maddened crowd and the search continued through Sunday. Some of the citizens of the town went to Asheville, North Carolina, a rumor having been circulated to the effect that the negro had gone there. This, however proved to be unfounded.

Yesterday morning Mr. J. C. Robison of the Appalachee mills office saw Johnson cutting wood back of a house in the mill village. He first satisfied himself that it was the brute that was wanted and then arrested him. Taking him to the company store, Mr. Robison turned Johnson over to Officer T. Parker.

The negro was then carried into Greer by a roundabout way and was concealed in a private residence in the town. Mayor Frank Burgess was notified and he instructed Chief of Police Littlefield to bring the prisoner to Greenville. The prisoner was then placed in a buggy and was started towards this city.

A short time after the party started to Greenville with Johnson it became known in Greer that he had been caught and the mob began to hunt for information as to what had been done with him. Mayor Burgess, knowing that the crowd had learned of the negro's arrest and fearing that they might overtake the buggy and get the prisoner, secured two automobiles and started towards Greenville in one himself and Chief of Police Littlefield in the other. Mr. Burgess first notified Sheriff Gilreath that the mob was on the trail of the negro and asked him to start towards Greer to meet the party with the prisoner.

Mayor Burgess overtook the party with the negro near Chick Springs and put the negro in the automobile. Sheriff Gilreath started from Greenville in the big three seated car of Mr. C. M. Wing and Mr. Frank Kneble, who was running it. This he did and the machine with the prisoner was met three fourths of a mile below Taylors.

The negro was brought to the city and lodged in the county jail. It was after 11 o'clock when he was brought to the city. At half past twelve the sheriff took the brute to the Charleston and Western Carolina Railway depot and put him on the train leaving at that hour for Columbia. Jailer Noe and Officer Kitchen had him in charge. It did not become generally known until yesterday afternoon that Johnson had been taken to Columbia for safe keeping.

The people of Greer were much wrought up and there is little doubt but that Johnson would have been shot to death in a few minutes had he fallen into the hands of the mob. The citizens were not boisterous; they had little to say, but they were determined to make an object lesson of the negro brute.

Sheriff Gilreath and Mayor Burgess and the other officials of Greer, by their prompt action, prevented the lynching. The plan of spiriting the negro away was skillfully planned and neatly executed.

Johnson, the negro who insulted Miss McClure and who made an improper proposal to her, has always borne a good reputation. He was the janitor of the school building and a polite negro could not have been found in the whole country. This makes his action in making an improper proposal to the young lady surprising. It is believed by many that he was under the influence of liquor at the time.—Greenville News.

RECIPROCAL DEMURRAGE.

Paper Read by Railway Commissioner Sullivan.

Washington, Oct. 8.—The National Association of Railway Commissioners concluded its twentieth annual Convention to-day. Officers were elected as follows:

President, Martin S. Decker, of New York; first vice president, R. Hudson Burr, of Florida; second vice president, Charles F. Staples, of Minnesota. The next Convention will be held in this city, October 12, 1909. J. M. Sullivan, of South Carolina, read a paper to-day favoring the application of the principle of reciprocal demurrage, which was adopted.

Chairman Martin Knapp, of the Inter-State commerce commission, submitted a report favoring uniform legislation on various regulations for the control of railroads.

Naval Stores Men Meet.

New Orleans, Oct. 8.—Naval stores operators representing five Southern States to-day completed plans to establish a producers selling company capitalized at \$2,000,000. The company will have headquarters at Jacksonville, Fla. Its object will be to secure better prices for naval stores products, which the operators in to-day's meeting claimed to have been forced below the cost of production by competition and by adulteration. W. P. Corbett, of Jacksonville, said that he and his assistants had information that 1,500,000 gallons of Southern turpentine had been adulterated in order to lower prices and that the new company will work to secure laws regulating interstate business in turpentine and especially its alleged adulteration.

Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida were represented at to-day's meeting.

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